Telecom Projects in Gujarat and Maharashtra

1908. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total number of ongoing projects, pertaining to the Ministry of Communications in Gujarat and Maharashtra as on 30th June, 1994 ;

(b) what is the number of those projects out of this which are lagging behind their original schedule ;

(c) whether the cost of these projects has been escalated due to delay in their execution ;

(d) if so, what is the amount of cost escalation ;

(e) what is the number of projects out of them which are being executed with assistance from private/foreign financial institutions ;

(f) whether it is also a fact that Government have to pay commitment charges on this amount for not utilising foreign assistance in a proper manner ; and

(g) what are the commitment charges during the year 1992-93, 1993-94 and as on date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The total number of ongoing projects in Gujarat and Maharashtra including MTNL Bombay as on 30-6-84 is 1,087.

(b) Nil.

(c) and (d) The question does not arise.

(e) to (g) Information is being compiled and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Commissioning of Telephone Exchanges in Hilly Districts of Uttar Pradesh

1909. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone exchanges proposed to be commissioned during 1993-94 in the hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh ; and

(b) the places where the telephone exchanges have been commissioned so far out of them and to be commissioned during 1994-95 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b) During the year 1993-94, 18 exchanges were planned to be commissioned in the hilly districts of Uttar Pradehs. Of these, exchanges at 10 places were commissioned during 1993-94 and the remaining 8 will be commissioned during 1994-95. Details are given in the enclosed Statement *(See* below).

In addition to the above, 33 Nos. of Telephone Exchanges are also planned to be commissioned in Hilly Districts of Uttar Pradesh during 1994-95.

Statement

I. Places where telephone exchanges have been commissioned during 1993-94

Sl. No.	Name of District	Name of Place/ Exchange
1.	Pithoragarh . .	Pithoragarh
2.	Nainital . . .	Ramnagar
3.	Nainital . . .	Pantnagar
4.	Nainital . . .	Bazpar
5.	Nainital . . .	Sitarganj
6.	Nainital . . .	Ranikhet
7.	Dehradun . .	Dehradun
8.	Dehradun . .	Mussorie
9.	Pauri . . .	Srinagar
10.	Dehradun . .	Raipur

II. Places where telephone exchanges are planned to be commissioned during 1994-95

Sl. No.	Name of District	Name of Place/ Exchange
1.	Nainital . . .	Kichha
2.	Nainital . . .	Gadarpur
3.	Nainital . . .	Janakpur
4.	Dehradun . .	Rajour
5.	Dehradun . .	Doiwala
6.	Dehradun . .	Dak Pathar
7.	Chamoli . .	Karanprayag
8.	Chamoli . .	Rudraprayag

Demand for Improvement in Postal System

1910. SHRI O. P. KOHLI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the 'Jansatta' dated 30th October, 1994 under the caption "Daak Vyavashta sudharne ki maang" ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir,

The news-item dated 30th October in 'Jansatta' stated that the residents of Trans-Yamuna areas have to suffer due to inadequate number of Post Offices, Postmen and letter-boxes while complaints of loss of letters and delay in their delivery have become common. A specific plea for improvement in Johripur-Karawal Nagar has also been made alongwith the request for general improvement in postal services in Trans-Yamuna area.

(c) Increase in work load due to rapid growth in Trans-Yamuna area had put strain on the postal system. Additional postmen staff has been deployed earmarking the staff required for Johripur-Karawal Nagar locality in particular. Two additional Post Offices have also been sanctioned for Sonia Vihar and Indraprastha Extn. and the Department is on the lookout for suitable accommodation.

Additional letter-boxes have also been installed in Trans-Yamuna area inclusive of requirements of Johripur-Karawal Nagar. There have been occasional cases of loss of registered and insured articles. Orders have been given for erpeditious sanction of ex-gratia payment in respect of registered articles and settlement of claim regarding insured articles.

Foreign Technologies

1911. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a public apprehension over the plethora of foreign technologies that would be inducted in the existing network, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government are aware of the feelings of the DOT officials that the new system had been hurriedly picked up without considering that they could pose major installation problems, if so, what steps Government propose to take to avoid such problems; and

(c) whether it is a fact that there could be serious compatibility problems in matching the different systems, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No written communication in this regard has been received.

(c) No compatibility problem is envisaged.

टेलीफोन डायरेक्टरी निःशुल्क उपलब्ध कराया जाना

1912. **श्री गोविंदराव आदिक :**

श्री प्रमोद महाजन :

क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कुछ निजी कंपनियों ने उपभोक्ताओं को देश के महत्वपूर्ण शहरों की टेलीफोन डायरेक्टरी निःशुल्क उपलब्ध कराने की पेशकश की है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इनका ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या सरकार सार्वजनिक हित और उपभोक्ताओं को प्रतिवर्ष अद्यतन टेलीफोन डायरेक्टरी की उपलब्धता को ध्यान में रखते हुए इस पेशकश को स्वीकार करने का विचार रखती है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो इनका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुख राम) : (क) से (घ) मौजूदा अनुदेशों के अनुसार, दूरसंचार जिला प्रबंधक और इससे उच्च स्तर के अधिकारी के अधीन टेलीफोन जिलों के पीले पृष्ठों वाली टेलीफोन डायरेक्टरियों का मुद्रण संविदा के जरिए करवाया जाता है जिसके लिए फर्म के साथ महानगरों तथा बड़े जिलों के संबंध में पांच वर्ष और छोटे जिलों के संबंध में तीन वर्ष के लिए व्यापक संविदा की जाती है। संविदा की शर्तों के अनुसार, संविदाकार प्रत्येक वर्ष अपेक्षित संख्या में टेलीफोन डायरेक्टरियों की निःशुल्क आपूर्ति करता है और विभाग का पूर्व निर्धारित रायल्टी का भुगतान करता है।

(ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Telecom Facilities in Backward and Tribal Areas of Tamilnadu

1913. SHRI S. AUSTIN:
SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any plan to provide telecommunication facilities in backward and tribal areas of Tamilnadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have formulated a plan to provide telecommunication facilities to tribal areas of the country including Tamil Nadu, Backward areas, as such, have not been defined.

(b) District-wise details up to 30-11-94 are given in the enclosed Statement *(See* below).

(c) Question does not arise in view of reply to (b) above.